

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Official Action dated 28 February 2005 has been carefully considered, along with cited references, applicable sections of the Patent Act, Patent Rules, the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure and relevant decisional law.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Figure 1 of the instant application in view of Morgan or Ljungstrom.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is significantly different from that of the cited arts as can be seen from their respective structures. Applicant's invention as specified in the amended claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over these references when taken either singularly or in combination for the following reasons:

The Examiner states that Figure 1 of the instant application discloses all of the claimed subject matter except for having six pair of curved actuating surfaces on the follower. Figure 1 of the instant application discloses six pair of flat actuating surfaces on the follower.

For claims the Examiner further cites Morgan (fig. 7, lines 20-35 of col. 3) or Ljungstrom (figs. 1-3, lines 1-20 of page 1) as examples disclosing recesses bound by curved actuating surfaces.

However, actually, Morgan and Ljungstrom disclose two examples of clutch mechanisms for screw drivers or a driving element, but not for a ratchet wrench.

In the typical ratchet wrenches, as disclosed in figures 1-4 of the instant application, the follower (40) includes six recesses (43)

formed in six sides (44) thereof, and six pairs of flat actuating surfaces (45) formed thereon, and the rollers (50) may not be suitably or solidly engaged between the respective flat actuating surfaces (45) of the follower (40) and the inner peripheral surface of the head (11), due to the flat actuating surfaces (45) of the follower (40), particularly when the follower (40) is slowly rotated relative to the head 11, the rollers (50) may slip relative to the flat actuating surfaces (45) of the follower (40).

By contrast, in Applicant's invention, as amended in the amended claim 1, the follower (40) includes six recesses (43) formed in six sides (44) thereof, and simultaneously including six pairs of curved actuating surfaces (451) formed thereon, for allowing the rollers (50) to be suitably or solidly engaged between the respective curved actuating surfaces (451) of the follower (40) and the inner peripheral surface of the head (11). The follower (40), simultaneously, further includes a driving shank (41) and a shaft (48) extended therefrom, and rotatably secured to the washer (20) and the cap (30) with retaining rings (23, 32) respectively

The cited arts fail to teach a follower (40) including six recesses (43) formed in six sides (44) thereof, and simultaneously including six pairs of curved actuating surfaces (451) formed thereon, for allowing the rollers (50) to be suitably or solidly engaged between the respective curved actuating surfaces (451) of the follower (40) and the inner peripheral surface of the head (11). The applicant's invention is different from that of the cited arts and has improved over the cited arts.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant

respectfully submits that the present invention is patentably distinguishable over the cited arts and that the application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited.

Courtesy and cooperation of Examiner MEISLIN are appreciated.

respectfully submitted,

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